



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



## WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER

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USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

Issue 2013 04 29 CW

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE - April 29, 2013

### Crop Weather

Available on the Internet: [www.nass.usda.gov/nm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nm), or by email (1-800-530-8810 for information)

### CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING April 28, 2013

**NEW MEXICO:** Alfalfa conditions ranged was good to fair; 24% first cutting complete. Cotton 30% planted. Corn 9% planted. Sorghum was 2% planted. Winter wheat was mostly very poor; with 15% headed; 42% grazed. Lettuce condition was mostly good. Chile condition was mostly fair; 87% planted. Onion conditions were mostly good. Cattle conditions ranged from very poor to good. Sheep conditions ranged from very poor to fair. Range and pasture conditions were mostly very poor. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Topsoil moisture was 75% very short, 19% short and 6% adequate. Wind damage was 24% light, 8% moderate and 1% severe; with winter wheat 58% damaged and onions 5% damaged. Freeze damage was 20% light, 20% moderate and 1% severe; with winter wheat 52% damaged and onions 7% damaged. No hail damage reported.

**Additional Comments:** Curry: Wide variety of temperatures and weather conditions this week. There may have been some freeze damage to wheat but not able to determine percentage at this time. Some wheat is being harvested as early silage, due partially to freeze damage and fear of harming wheat crop. Also some wheat hay being baled. Livestock condition continues to deteriorate due to drought conditions and wind. Cattle are coming to auction showing signs of stress. Livestock operators are still being forced to liquidate herds or reduce numbers, though many are still trying to hold a remnant of their herds. Alfalfa begins to grow but progressing slowly due to periods of freezing temperatures at night and irregular daytime temperatures. Dona Ana: Livestock is on 100% supplemental feed. Range Conditions are extremely poor, virtually no forage grasses available due to extreme drought. Desert/rangelands are showing major vegetation loss with no cover. Sand is visible where vegetation covers use to exist. If winds become severe the sandy conditions could make for a return to "dust bowl" conditions. Water is extremely tight. Lincoln: Drought intensifying in Otero and Lincoln Counties. Ranchers selling calves early, culling herds to downsize, hay is difficult to find and prices are high. Luna/Grant: As the drought continues, we will see more livestock herds being sold off. The ranchers cannot afford to continue to water and feed their livestock. Quay: Conditions continue to be very dry. High winds and dust persisted this week. No precipitation. Producers continue to destock, very little cattle left in the county. Rio Arriba: Cooler weather slowed plant growth down. Runoff is yet to start. San Juan: Still freezing at night, no crops planted. Taos: This week rain showers have brought much needed moisture, but dry conditions still remain.

#### CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
Alfalfa	1st cutting	24	18	30	27
Chile	Planted	87	75	91	88
Corn	Planted	20	14	22	33
Cotton	Planted	30	21	51	47
Sorghum	Planted	2	2	5	5
W Wheat	Grazed	42	40	56	-

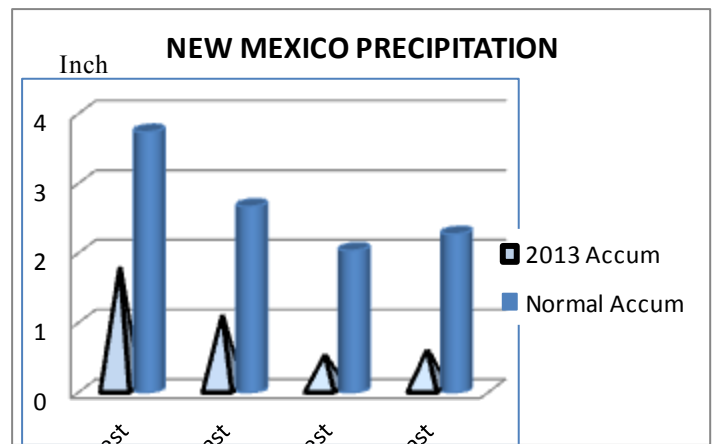
#### CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	4	7	38	43	8
Chile	-	-	58	34	8
Lettuce	11	-	-	56	33
Onion	-	-	31	58	11
Winter Wheat	63	10	18	9	-
Cattle	11	34	40	14	1
Sheep	24	26	35	15	-

#### SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	62	34	4	-
Northeast	94	6	-	-
Southwest	50	-	50	-
Southeast	77	23	-	-
State Current	75	19	6	-
State-Last Week	79	15	6	-
State-Last Year	61	32	7	-
State-5-Yr Avg.	44	34	21	1

RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITION					
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Northwest	45	36	18	1	-
Northeast	80	11	9	-	-
Southwest	83	10	7	-	-
Southeast	59	31	10	-	-
State Current	63	25	11	1	-
State-Last Week	69	23	7	1	-
State-Last Year	57	32	10	1	-
State-5-Yr Avg.	26	37	28	9	-



### Weather Summary

Temperatures were slightly above average but by midweek a back door cold front lowered temperatures with sub-freezing in some locations, east of the central mountains and produced little precipitation in the northeast.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS – April 22 - April 28, 2013								
Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Week 22 Apr - 28 Apr	Month 01 Apr - 28 Apr	Accum. 01 Jan - 28 Apr	Normal Apr	Normal Jan-Apr
<b>Northwest</b>								
Albuquerque	60.4	82	31	0.00	0.08	0.60	0.61	2.04
Chama	42.5	70	14	0.00	0.74	4.11	1.70	7.46
Farmington	53.4	76	25	0.00	0.49	1.67	0.65	2.55
Gallup	50.0	77	15	0.00	0.38	1.74	0.59	2.90
Grants	52.4	79	17	0.00	0.05	0.14	0.55	2.28
Johnson Ranch	47.6	74	14	0.00	0.52	0.79	0.84	2.99
Los Alamos	50.1	74	19	0.00	0.56	1.82	1.02	4.05
Red River	39.0	64	15	0.22	0.86	4.33	2.02	6.54
Santa Fe	49.9	75	18	0.00	0.01	0.59	0.77	2.84
<b>Northeast</b>								
Capulin	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.31	1.93	0.93	3.14
Clayton	50.9	83	19	-	0.02	0.77	0.94	2.04
Clovis	55.3	86	24	0.00	-	1.35	0.92	2.85
Las Vegas	46.6	75	16	0.03	0.07	0.44	0.90	2.64
Moriarty	48.4	78	14	0.00	0.09	0.79	0.68	2.84
Raton	47.1	80	25	0.12	0.41	1.61	1.22	3.15
Roy	47.8	78	22	0.06	0.07	0.53	0.82	2.14
Tucumcari	55.6	88	21	0.00	0.01	1.06	1.10	3.09
<b>Southwest</b>								
Animas	63.2	86	36	0.00	-	0.63	0.22	2.01
Deming	64.8	87	40	0.00	-	0.48	0.36	1.98
Gran Quivira	53.1	78	17	0.00	0.02	0.77	0.77	2.85
Quemado	51.1	74	21	0.00	0.23	0.61	0.48	2.17
Socorro	64.6	89	33	0.00	0.09	0.30	0.41	1.70
T or C	65.6	88	38	0.00	-	0.14	0.29	1.51
<b>Southeast</b>								
Alamogordo	64.4	88	39	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.38	2.15
Carlsbad	62.4	94	32	0.00	0.04	0.90	0.64	2.16
Carrizozo	58.6	82	30	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.36	2.10
Las Cruces	65.4	86	46	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.29	1.43
Roswell	58.1	91	29	0.00	-	0.50	0.70	2.27
Ruidoso	51.7	73	21	0.00	0.04	0.62	0.69	3.74
Tatum	55.1	88	25	0.00	-	1.14	0.64	2.05

(T) Trace (-) No Report (\*) Correction - All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official.